

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IOE-00 /072 W

-----122191 161057Z /20

O P 160850Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0693

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 2257

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG UNSC RH US UK BC

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: UNSC RESOLUTION

REF: (A) STATE 221150, (B) USUN 3001

1. UK HI COM TURNER TELEPHONED SEPTEMBER 15 TO SAY HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO SEE PRESIDENT KHAMA AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD I WAS TO JOIN HIM IN DEMARCHE CONVEYING LOBBYING TALKING POINTS. ALTHOUGH I WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, CONSIDERING THRUST OF REF A(ESPECIALLY PARA 3), AND POSSIBLE MISINTERPRETATION OF MY ABSENCE, IT SEEMED CLEAR THAT UK APPROACH HAD BEEN APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS MY JOINING IN IT.

2. IN ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT KHAMA, WHO IS UP-COUNTRY, APPOINTMENT WAS SET FOR 3:30 P.M., SEPTEMBER 15 FOR UK HICOM AND ME WITH VICE PRESIDENT MASIRE WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY EXTAFFMIN MOGWE, PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
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TIBONE, AND EXTAFF PERSEC MOGAMI.

3. UK HICOM BEGAN BY TRANSMITTING MESSAGE TO PRES. KHAMA FROM PRIMIN CALLAGHAN DATED SEPTEMBER 14 (TEXT BY SEPTTEL). HICOM TURNER OUTLINED UK/US OBJECTIVE OF MOVING QUICKLY TO UNSC, HOPEFULLY EARLY NEXT WEEK, WITH THE LIMITED BUT VITAL OBJECTIVE OF GETTING UNSC APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF UN

REPRESENTATIVE TO ACT UNDER PARA 11,C. TURNER CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY SAYING SUPPORT OF FRONTLINE STATES WAS "ESSENTIAL" AND ASKING IF GOB UN DELEGATION COULD BE INSTRUCTED TO SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION.

4. V.P. MASIRE DEFERRED TO MOGWE WHO NOTED THAT HE WAS LEAVING FOR NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 17 BUT HAD BUSINESS IN EUROPE AND WOULD BE DELAYED IN REACHING UN, PROBABLY SEPTEMBER 21 (SEPTEL). HE ASKED TURNER TO EXPLAIN THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE RESOLUTION NOW BEING REQUESTED AND THE MANDATE FOR A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. HE ASKED WHETHER SC SHOULD NOT "KNOW WHAT THEY'RE GETTING INTO". TURNER EXPLAINED THE LIMITED RESPONSIBILITY OF RESREP, THAT OF UNDERTAKING TALKS AIMED AT CEASE-FIRE. ONCE THIS IS ACHIEVED, A MANDATE WOULD BE REQUESTED TO GUIDE THE RESREP DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

5. MOGWE COMMENTED THAT BOTSWANA ALWAYS TRIES TO ACT IN CONCERT WITH FRONTLINE STATES. BEFORE MAKING A STATEMENT, THEREFORE, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO COMPARE NOTES, OBTAIN REACTIONS OF OTHERS "SOME OF WHOM ARE CLOSER TO THE SCENE THAN WE ARE". EVEN AT THIS STAGE, HOWEVER, MOGWE SAID WE COULD "BE SURE GOB DOES NOT OPPOSE THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION".)

6. MOGWE ASKED WHO WOULD PROPOSE RESOLUTION, TURNER SAID THIS WOULD DEPEND ON REACTIONS, INCLUDING ESPECIALLY FRONTLINE REACTION. HE PRE-DICTED THAT IF THE VOTE APPEARS CLOSE OR IF A "BATTLE" CONFIDENTIAL

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THREATENS IN UNSC, THEN FONSEC OWEN HIMSELF WOULD DO IT.

7. TIBONE ASKED ABOUT POSITION OF SAG. TURNER NOTED SAG WAS APPARENTLY WARNING SMITH ABOUT NECESSITY OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED SOLUTION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT OPPOSING. MOGWE ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF PATRIOTIC FRONT IS NEGATIVE. HICOM TURNER SAID UK AND US WOULD, IN HIS OPINION, HAVE TO GO AHEAD. MOGAMI INQUIRED ABOUT POSITION OF USSR AND PRC. SUBSTANCE OF TURNER'S AND MY RESPONSE WAS THAT BOTH COUNTRIES APPEARED TO BE AWAITING REACTION OF AFRICANS, HENCE THE IMPORTANCE OF POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF FRONTLINE STATES. MOGWE SUMMARIZED BY SAYING IT WAS THE "SECURITY ASPECT" OF PROPOSALS THAT CAUSES "NIGHTMARES". HE SAW NO DIFFICULTY WITH PLAN AS OUTLINED BUT COMMENTED ON IMPORTANCE OF LOBBYING IN NEW YORK. HE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE IF AMBASSADOR RICHARD COULD MEET AND BRIEF THE REPRESENTATIVES (PERHAPS FOREIGN MINISTERS) OF FRONTLINE STATES IN NEW YORK EARLY NEXT WEEK. IN A FINAL WORD, MASIRE SAID GOB IS FAVORABLE BUT HAS LEARNED THAT ITS INFLUENCE IS GREATER WHEN IT WORKS QUIETLY BEHIND THE SCENES AND CORRESPONDINGLY LESSENED WHEN IT GETS OUT IN FRONT BY MEANS

OF UNILATERAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS. WE COULD, THEREFORE, SAY THAT
GOB SEES NO PROBLEM IN APPROVING UK PROPOSAL -- SUBJECT
TO CONSULTATION WITH OTHER FRONTLINE STATES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION EXCHANGE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, UNSC RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GABORO02257
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770336-0844
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770956/aaaabvjt.tel
Line Count: 120
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a6df3245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 221150, 77 USUN NEW YORK 3001
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1249310
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: UNSC RESOLUTION
TAGS: PORG, RH, US, UK, BC, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a6df3245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009